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A Study of Teacher's Views on Open Book Test

A B S T R A C T

A new approach on "Open Book Test" is to come in practice in education. A new wave of revolution is going to spread in school level education and it is on examinations reforms. Recently Gujarat State Secondary Education Board took a decision related to changes in examination process. In which the students studying in Std. 8, 9 and 10 will take written examination with open books. The researcher intended to know the opinions of teachers on open book test and also effect on students, learning process and evaluation process.

Introduction :

A new approach on "Open Book Test" is to come in practice in education. A new wave of revolution is going to spread in school level education and it is on examinations reforms. Some questions are raised to current examination method. Learners is not able to develop himself with all his strength due to recalling, cramming, copy etc. Pestology has compared the child with a tender (delicate) plant. The plant needs ploughing, fertilizer and water at proper time and in proper quantity for better growth. In the same way, a delicate child can be developed only by effective gesture system, communication system, understanding of facts by prompt decision, scientific view to every process etc. This can be in practice when our examination process is able to evaluate all the aspects of learners and brain storming can be effectively existed. Recently Gujarat State Secondary Education Board took a decision related to changes in examination process.

In which the students studying in Std. 8, 9 and 10 will take written examination with open books. The thought was expressed on "Teachers Day", 5th Sep. by Honorable C.M. of Gujarat Shri Narendra Modi and accepted by the Chairman of Secondary Education Board. Soon the decision was taken in Board meeting. Open book test Aims at development of students' aptitude. Till today, we have evaluated the students' learning by only obtained marks in exam. So Cramming was encouraged. Students using guides, material prepared on computers, tuition could get bright success in our traditional written exams. Much difference is found in academic achievement between Urban and Rural students. So it is expected when open book test takes the place of traditional evaluation process, evaluation will be valid and reliable.

The researcher intended to know the opinions of teachers on open book test and also effect on students, learning process and evaluation process.

• Statement of Problem :

A Study of Teacher's Views on Open Book Test.

• Objectives of Study :

- 1) To know the views of Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary teachers on open book test.
- 2) To know the students related views of teachers on open book test.
- 3) To know the learning process related views of teachers on open book test.
- 4) To know the evaluation related views of teachers on open book test.

• Population and Sample :

Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools are included in the universe for this study.

Five teachers from each Primary, School, Secondary School and Higher Secondary Schools situated in Vadu Village were selected for Rural area and the same sample was selected from Mehsana City for Urban area.

• Tools :

To Know the opinions from teachers, the researcher had prepared a short questionnaire with four free answers type questions. Following were the questions.

- 1) What are the advantages and disadvantages of open book test for teachers ?
- 2) What are the advantages and disadvantages of open book test for students ?
- 3) How will the evaluation process be practicing open book test ?
- 4) How will be teaching process be practicing the open book test ?

• Collection of data and Analysis :

The information in the form of answers was collected from selected teachers of Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools at Vadu and Mehsana. The conclusions in the form of opinions are stated as below.

• Conclusions (Teachers opinion) :

- 1) The exam will become book centered. The entire book will be

studied or read by students carefully.

2) The students will try to understand the content deeply and he will start thinking, deep study and try to find out some innovation in content of study. It will be resulted in development of thinking power, logical power and decision power.

3) Students and parents will be free from threat of the word "Examination".

4) The result will be increased but personal percentile rank will be lower.

5) Students will be able to develop their own written skill, they will be enriched by vocabulary, knowledge of grammar and comprehension.

6) Students' memory power will be disappeared.

7) Wastage and stagnation will be lower in schools.

8) The teachers must complete the syllabus within time period. They can use textbooks while teaching in the class.

9) Teachers will be less careful to preparation and preplan of their topics of teaching.

10) Evaluation process will be accurate. No place of gracing mark.

11) Challenge for weak and gifted students.

12) Tuition will not help much so such classes will be closed.

13) We must bring change in our old exam process and question paper styles. The questions helpful to logical and thinking development will be asked.

14) Open book test can be proved failed in other competitive exams.

• **Conclusions (Teachers opinion) :**

It seems that approach of open book test will be useful and helpful to students, teachers, teaching learning process and evaluation process. On the other hand some opinion shows that it will be like a joke and nothing beneficial to this field.

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